Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) Hydrophilic polyolefin materials~~, made from a~~ comprising a polymeric matrix ~~mixture~~ of at least one polyolefin and at least one melt additive containing a fatty acid ester of the general formula

$$R\text{-}CO\text{-}O\text{-}CH_2\text{-}CH_2\text{-}O\text{-}R',$$

where R is a straight-chain or branched-chain alkyl residue with 23 to 35 carbon atoms, and where

$$R' = H, -CH_3, -C_2H_5, -C_3H_7, -C_4H_9,$$

wherein the fatty acid is intermixed and dispersed in the polymeric matrix; and

a composition of a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound disposed on a surface of the polyolefin material,

wherein fatty acids disposed in the polymeric matrix towards the surface of the polyolefin materials ~~include a subsequent activation of the fatty acid ester contained in the melt additive on the surface of the polyolefin material~~ are activated by applying the composition of a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound to the surface of the polyolefin material ~~a surface active substance in the form of a formulation which contains a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound~~.

2. (Previously Presented) Polyolefin material of claim 1, wherein the silicon compound is cationically modified.

3. (Previously Presented) Polyolefin material of claim 1, wherein the quaternary ammonium compound is a quaternized ester of fatty acids and triethanol amine.

4. (Currently Amended) Polyolefin material of claim 1, wherein the ~~formulation for the subsequent activation of the used fatty acid ester~~ polyolefin material comprises a fiber and the composition of a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound is applied on a fiber surface [[is]] in the form of an aqueous preparation.

5. (Currently Amended) Polyolefin material of claim 1, wherein the composition of a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound ~~formulation for the subsequent activation of the used fatty acid ester~~ on a fiber surface is set on the surface physically.

6. (Currently Amended) Polyolefin material of claim 1, which contains 0.01 to 0.5% by weight of the composition of a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound ~~the formulation for activating the used fatty acid ester on a fiber surface.~~

7. (Previously Presented) Fibers produced from a polyolefin material of claim 1.

8. (Previously Presented) Filaments produced from a polyolefin material of claim 1.

9. (Previously Presented) A nonwoven produced from a polyolefin material of claim 1.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The nonwoven of claim 9, wherein it has repeated strike-through time measurements according to the EDANA test method ERT 154.0.00 of smaller than 5 seconds.

12. (Previously Presented) The nonwoven of claim 9, wherein it has in the determination of a repeated runoff according to the EDANA test method ERT 152.0-99, a repeated runoff of less than 25% by weight of the test fluid based on an applied quantity of fluid.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) Method of producing hydrophilic polyolefin materials ~~which consist of at least one polyolefin and a melt additive containing a fatty acid ester, wherein the polyolefin materials include a subsequent activation of the fatty acid ester contained in the melt additive on the fiber surface by applying a surface-active substance in the form of a formulation, which contains a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound~~ comprising

forming a polymer matrix of a polyolefin and a melt additive containing a fatty ester, wherein the fatty acid is dispersed within the polymer matrix;

extruding the polymer matrix to form a polyolefin material;

applying a composition of a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound to a surface of the polyolefin material;

activating hydrophilic properties of fatty acids disposed towards the surface of the polyolefin material with said silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound such that the surface of the polyolefin material is hydrophilic.

15. (New) Method of Claim 14, further comprising the step of extruding the polymer matrix in the form of a fiber.

16. (New) Method of Claim 14, comprising applying the composition of a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound to a surface of the polyolefin material to the surface of the polyolefin material in an amount from about 0.01 to 5 weight percent based on the total weight of the polyolefin material.

17. (New) Hydrophilic polyolefin material comprising:

a polyolefin material;

a fatty acid ester intermixed and dispersed within the polyolefin material, the fatty acid having the general formula:

$$R\text{-}CO\text{-}O\text{-}CH_2\text{-}CH_2\text{-}O\text{-}R',$$

where R is a straight-chain or branched-chain alkyl residue, and where

$$R' = H, -CH_3, -C_2H_5, -C_3H_7, -C_4H_9,$$

wherein the fatty acid is added as a melt additive during extrusion of the polyolefin material, and wherein at least some of the fatty acid is disposed towards a surface of the polyolefin material;

a surface active coating disposed on a surface of the polyolefin material, the surface active coating comprising a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound, wherein the surface active coating activates fatty acids disposed towards the surface of the polyolefin material such that the polyolefin material is rendered hydrophilic.

18. (New) The hydrophilic polyolefin material of claim 17, wherein the coating comprising a silicone compound and a quaternary ammonium compound is present on the surface of the polyolefin material in an amount from about 0.05 to 0.15 weight percent, based on the total weight of the polyolefin material.

19. (New) The hydrophilic polyolefin material of claim 17, wherein the fatty acid is present in an amount from 0.05 to 2 weight percent, based on the total weight of the polyolefin material and the fatty acid.

20. (New) The hydrophilic polyolefin material of claim 17, wherein the fatty acid is present in an amount from 0.1 to 0.5 weight percent, based on the total weight of the polyolefin material and the fatty acid.

21. (New) The hydrophilic polyolefin material of claim 17, wherein the polyolefin material further comprises up to about 1 weight percent of titanium dioxide.

22. (New) The hydrophilic polyolefin material of claim 17, wherein the polyolefin material is in the form of a fiber.

23. (New) The hydrophilic polyolefin material of claim 17, wherein the polyolefin material is in the form of a fiber.

24. (New) The hydrophilic polyolefin material of claim 17, wherein the polyolefin material is in the form of a nonwoven.

25. (New) The hydrophilic polyolefin material of claim 17, wherein R is a straight-chain or branched-chain alkyl residue with 23 to 35 carbon atoms